



BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1966

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
"DINSDALE"**

**MARINE TERRACE
BLYTH**

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BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1966

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions in the Borough during the year 1966.

The Registrar General's estimated population was 36,150: this is a fall of 170. The number of live births during the year was 571—exactly 100 less than 1965. This may well be due to the increased use of the oral contraceptive "pill", and we can only wait and see whether this trend is going to continue. The birth rate was 15.4 per 1,000 population, the lowest recorded for Blyth as a Borough.

The number of deaths rose from 371 in 1965 to 388 in 1966, and with the falling population the death rate rose to 10.7 per 1,000 population.

Unfortunately the number of infant deaths increased from 7 to 12, giving the infantile mortality rate of 21.0 per 1,000 live births. Six were under one week and two under one month. Two of the deaths were due to asphyxia caused by choking on food or vomitus. It could be said that these deaths were preventable.

The more cheerful side is the continuing decline of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases. There were seven pulmonary and one non-pulmonary cases notified, and the case rate per 1,000 home population was 4.6, which is the lowest ever. If you consider that only as far back as 1957 the figure was 15.2 it is obvious that considerable progress is being made.

There were 491 notifications of infectious diseases during the year—458 of these being measles. Details of the other cases are given in the report.

The Old People's Welfare which provides the Meals on Wheels Service is supported by the Health Committee, and this voluntary Committee is to be congratulated on the excellent work they do.

The National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, and the Amendment Act, 1951, were not invoked in 1966.

I wish to thank the Chairman and the members of the Health Committee for their interest, my colleagues in other Departments for their co-operation and the Health Department staff for their work during the year and for their loyalty to me.

I remain,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER DONALDSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH

There is no doubt that numbers of persons killed or maimed on the roads is shocking—especially at holiday weekends when the numbers are spotlighted. It is not easy to accept that this slaughter is not confined to holiday weekends but continues almost unabated throughout the year.

In 1965 there were 7,515 deaths due to road accidents (144 per week) and many of these could possibly have been prevented. Some were undoubtedly due to the drivers being under the influence of alcohol—but how many? I think it is necessary to publish statistics giving the numbers where alcohol was a factor and the numbers where it was definitely proved that it was not. I am sure that many accidents are due to excessive speed, inexperience, impatience and physical unfitness and these should be published as well. In other words there should be a breakdown of all the accident statistics.

In the same year, 1965, there were 26,398 deaths from cancer of the lung—507 each week—three and a half times the number of road deaths. These cancer deaths are preventable as the main cause is cigarette smoking. The Tobacco Research Council in Northern Ireland confirmed that the heavy smoker was 20 times more liable to lung cancer than the non-smoker. In the community the only section which showed a reduction in lung cancer deaths was the doctors. There was a fall of 7% while in the rest of the community there was a rise of 22%. In simple language it means that if you stop smoking you reduce the chances of dying from lung cancer.

Of course there is a difference between road deaths and lung cancer deaths. The latter affects only the individual while the former may involve innocent persons.

In 1966 the lung cancer deaths will have exceeded 606 per week and the road deaths perhaps 175. Smoking is certainly a personal problem and one which is difficult to attack. It would seem that education of the child population holds out the most hope for the future.

Road accidents — banning alcohol would be a great step forward but you would still have the speedster, the road hog and the physically unfit. Perhaps a complete ban on all private vehicles is the only answer. At least that would mean that the state would have no excuse for failing to produce an efficient, cheap and financially sound transport system.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA 1966

Area—No Change	Acreage—6,487
Population—(Registrar-General's Estimate)	36,150
Rate Value—(1st April, 1966)	£987,480
Product of a Penny Rate	£3,689
Total Number of Dwelling Houses in Borough 1st April, 1966	11,426

Extract from Vital Statistics

	1966	1965
Comparability Factor—Births 0.98 Deaths 1.26		
Total Live Births	571	671
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Uncorrected)	15.7	18.4
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population (Standardised)	15.4	18.0
Still Births	11	11
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	18.9	16.1
Total Live and Still Births	582	682
Infant Deaths	12	7
Neo-Natal Deaths (under one month)	8	6
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births) ...	21.0	10.4
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	18.6	9.5
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	57.1	27.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 Live Births)	14.0	8.9
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under one week per 1,000 Live Births)	10.5	8.9
Number of Deaths under one week	6	6
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under one week per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	29.2	24.9
Illegitimate Live Births	35	37
Illegitimate Live Births % of Total Live Births	6.1	5.5
Maternal Deaths	Nil	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Nil	1.4
Total Deaths	388	371
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population	10.7	10.2
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 Home Popula- tion	13.4	12.7
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Home Popula- tion	0.02	0.02
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Case Rate per 1,000 Home Population	4.6	5.2

Causes of Death, 1966

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	1
057	Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	1
057.1	Meningococcal Septicaemia	—	1	1
150	Malignant Neoplasm of Oesophagus ..	1	—	1
151	" " " Stomach	6	8	14
153	" " " Large Bowel	2	4	6
154	" " " Rectum	—	1	1
155	" " " Liver	1	—	1
155.1	" " " Gallbladder	—	1	1
157	" " " Pancreas	1	1	2
162	" " " Bronchus and Lung	20	6	26
170	" " " Breast	1	7	8
171	" " " Cervix Uteri	—	4	4
175	" " " Ovary	—	3	3
176	" " " Vulva	—	1	1
177	" " " Prostate	4	—	4
181	" " " Bladder	4	—	4
190.5	" " " Skin of Back (Melanoma) ..	1	—	1
191.3	" " " Face	1	—	1
192	" " " Eye	1	—	1
193	" " " Brain	4	1	5
194	" " " Thyroid Gland	1	—	1
197.3	" " " Muscle of Lower Limb	1	—	1
199	" " " Site Unspecified	2	1	3
203	Myelomatosis	2	1	3
260	Diabetes Mellitus	—	1	1
286.5	Malnutrition (Malabsorption Syndrome)	—	1	1
330	Sub Arachnoid Haemorrhage	—	1	1
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage	12	11	23
332	Cerebral Embolism and Thrombosis ..	11	15	26
343	Encephalitis	—	1	1
345	Multiple Sclerosis	1	1	2
350	Paralysis Agitans	1	—	1
355	Bulbar Paralysis	—	1	1
356	Motor Neuron Disease	1	1	2
410	Mitral Stenosis	1	1	2
411	Aortic Valve Disease	1	—	1
420	Arterio Sclerotic Heart Disease	1	—	1
420.1	Coronary Artery Thrombosis	50	33	83
420.1	Angina Pectoris	1	—	1
421.1	Chronic Endocarditis (Non Rheumatic)	1	—	1
422	Cardio-Vascular Degeneration	3	3	6
422.2	Cardio-Vascular Degeneration with Senility	8	10	18
433.1	Auricular Fibrillation	2	1	3
434.1	Congestive Heart Failure	9	13	22
434.2	Left Ventricular Failure	1	3	4
434.4	Cor Pulmone	1	—	1
444	Benign Hypertension	1	—	1
451	Aortic Aneurysm	—	1	1
454	Renal Vein Thrombosis	1	—	1
465	Pulmonary Embolism	—	3	3
490	Lobar Pneumonia	—	1	1
491	Broncho Pneumonia	4	8	12
493	Pneumonia Unspecified	2	—	2
502	Chronic Bronchitis	23	3	26
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia	1	1	2
523.3	Pneumoconiosis	2	—	2
540	Gastric Ulcer	1	—	1

Causes of Death, 1966—continued

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
541	Duodenal Ulcer	—	1	1
578	Massive Gastro-Intestinal Haemorrhage	—	1	1
581	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
600	Pyelonephritis	2	—	2
752	Hydrocephalus	1	—	1
754	Congenital Heart Disease (Tetralogy of Fallot)	—	1	1
754.2	Inter Ventricular Septal Defect	—	1	1
762	Atelectasis	1	1	2
762.5	Atelectasis with Prematurity	1	1	2
770	Haemolytic Disease of Newborn	—	1	1
776	Prematurity	1	—	1
782.9	Peripheral Circulatory Failure	—	1	1
792	Uraemia	2	1	3
794	Senility	1	—	1
E812	Motor Vehicle Accident to Pedestrian ..	1	1	2
E851	Accidental Drowning	1	—	1
E890	Accidental Gas Poisoning	1	—	1
E903	Fall on Same Level	—	4	4
E919	Accident with Rifle	1	—	1
E921	Asphyxia, Inhalation of Food or Vomit	3	—	3
E974	Suicide, Hanging	2	1	3
N803	Fracture of Skull	3	—	3
N805	Fracture Cervical Vertebra	1	—	1
N862	Crushed Thorax	1	—	1
		218	170	388
Deaths over 65 years		137	114	251

Deaths (1-4 Years), 1957-1966

Year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	Total
1957	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—
1959	—	—	—	1	1
1960	—	—	—	—	—
1961	—	—	—	—	—
1962	1	—	1	4	6
1963	1	—	1	2	4
1964	1	—	—	—	1
1965	—	1	—	—	1
1966	2	—	—	—	2

Monthly Deaths, 1966

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Number of Deaths each month	41	36	33	34	35	30	29	39	19	30	27	35

Causes of Infant Deaths

No.	Cause	Sex	Age	Where Death Occurred
1	Atelectasis	F	3 Hours	Hospital
2	Asphyxia (Inhalation of Vomit) ..	M	4 Months	Home
3	Broncho-Pneumonia	M	3 Months	Home
4	Asphyxia Neonatorum	M	1 Hour	Hospital
5	Hydrocephalus	M	10 Months	Hospital
6	Prematurity	M	2 Minutes	Home
7	Congenital Heart Disease (Mongol)	F	1 Week	Hospital
8	Prematurity Idiopathic Res. Distress Syndrome	M	17 Hours	Hospital
9	Asphyxia (Inhalation of Vomit) ..	M	3 Months	Home
10	Anoxia (Resp. Distress Syndrome)	F	1 Day	Hospital
11	Intr. Pulm. Haem. (Haem. Dis. of Newborn)	F	4 Days	Home
12	Renal Vein Thrombosis	M	1 Week	Hospital

Perinatal Deaths, 1957-1966

Year	Still Births	Deaths under 1 week	Perinatal Deaths (Still Births and Deaths under 1 wk.)	Deaths under 1 month	Deaths under 1 year
1957	19	4	23	7	12
1958	15	16	31	19	23
1959	13	9	22	12	16
1960	18	4	22	6	10
1961	8	9	17	11	13
1962	12	6	18	10	15
1963	10	9	19	9	11
1964	15	7	22	10	14
1965	11	6	17	6	7
1966	11	6	17	8	12

Infant Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates for the Ten Years 1957-1966

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Infant Deaths	12	23	16	10	13	15	11	14	7	12
Infant Mortality Rates	19.5	37.8	22.4	15.9	21.5	23.8	16.6	22.1	10.4	21.0

Maternal Deaths — Nil.

Child Deaths

1. Female. 13 months. Fredrichson/Waterhouse Syndrome.
2. Male. 21 months. Neuroblastoma.

BIRTHS, 1966

	Live Births		Still Births		Infant Deaths Under 4 weeks		Infant Deaths Under 1 week	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	273	298	5	6	4	4	3	3
Legitimate	258	278	5	6	3	3	2	2
Illegitimate	15	20	—	—	1	1	1	1

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of live births	610	608	712	627	602	629	660	633	671	571
No. of deaths	348	365	371	381	341	361	413	383	371	388
Excess of births over deaths ..	262	243	341	246	261	268	247	250	300	183
Infant deaths ..	12	23	16	10	13	15	11	14	7	12
Infant Mortality Rate	19.5	37.8	22.4	15.9	21.5	23.8	16.6	22.1	10.4	21.0

CANCER DEATHS

Type	1966		1965		1964		1963		1962		1961		1960		1959	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
All Causes	53	39	54	30	50	35	55	36	46	41	38	42	50	31	44	39
	92		84		85		91		87		80		81		83	
Bronchogenic ..	20	6	23	2	27	3	26	1	25	6	10	4	19	4	16	3
Stomach	6	8	1	8	2	7	9	3	4	7	11	5	10	7	5	6
Intestine	4	7	10	3	6	5	4	9	—	—	7	5	6	3	11	13
Female Organs	—	8	—	8	—	12	—	17	—	16	—	18	—	9	—	12
Others	23	10	20	9	15	8	16	6	17	12	10	10	15	8	12	5

CANCER DEATHS, 1966—Site and Age Distribution

SITE OF DISEASE	MALE						FEMALE							
	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	Total	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	Total
Malignant Neoplasm of														
Oesophagus ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Stomach ..	—	—	1	—	2	3	6	—	—	—	—	1	7	4
Large Bowel ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	4
Rectum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Liver ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gall Bladder ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pancreas ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Bronchus and Lung ..	—	—	2	4	4	10	20	—	—	1	2	1	2	7
Breast ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	3	6
Cervix Uteri ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	4
Ovary ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Vulva ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Prostate ..	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder ..	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skin of Back (Melanoma)	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Face ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eye ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brain ..	1	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Thyroid Gland ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Muscle of Lower Limb ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Site Unspecified ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Myelomatosis ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ..	2	—	5	6	14	26	53	—	4	8	7	20	39	

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1966

Statistics for the Borough of Blyth for the 10 years 1957-1966

Year	Popula- tion	Deaths	Death Rate	Live Births	Birth Rates	Infant Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo- Natal Death Rate
1957	34,440	348	10.1	610	17.8	12	19.5	14.6
1958	34,620	365	10.5	608	17.5	23	37.8	31.2
1959	34,760	371	10.6	712	20.4	16	22.4	16.8
1960	35,050	381	10.8	627	17.8	10	15.9	9.5
1961	35,970	341	9.4	602	16.7	13	21.5	18.2
1962	36,400	361	9.9	629	17.2	15	23.8	15.9
1963	36,440	413	11.3	660	18.1	11	16.6	13.6
1964	36,320	383	10.5	635	17.4	14	22.1	15.8
1965	36,320	371	10.2	671	18.4	7	10.4	8.9
1966	36,150	388	10.7	571	15.7	12	21.0	14.0

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1966

There were 491 notifications of infectious disease during the year. 458 of these were measles—almost the same number as in 1965, thus interfering with the statistical bi-annual epidemic theory. The cases were scattered over a fairly wide age group (1 year—7 years).

DYSENTERY

There were 7 cases of dysentery notified during the year.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION

One case notified.

PNEUMONIA

Two cases notified.

ERYSIPELAS

Two cases notified.

SCARLET FEVER

Four cases notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

There was one non-pulmonary case of tuberculosis notified and seven pulmonary cases. This is the lowest notification figure ever achieved in Blyth and makes good reading when the figures of 52 and 44 for 1956 and 1957 are considered. This is a great improvement in 10 years.

FOOD POISONING

There were nine cases notified during the year. In June, a family of four were notified. They had been infected at a holiday camp not far away. The local Medical Officer of Health was informed.

In July there was one isolated case notified—no organism was isolated.

In September and October four cases were notified. One was a single case and the source of infection was not traced.

The others were made up of one single case and two in a family. The organisms were identical and the phage types the same. The source of infection was traced to food premises where one employee was a carrier. There were no notifications of diphtheria and as in 1964, no cases of whooping cough.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1966—Age Distribution

DISEASES	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16-25 years	26-35 years	36-45 years	46-55 years	56-65 years	Over 65 years	N.K.	Total
Measles	25	67	69	75	72	97	50	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	458
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	9
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	1	—	7
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Non - Pulm. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	25	68	71	75	75	97	54	4	3	3	4	3	5	4	—	491

Infectious Disease — Age Distribution, 1966

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Diphtheria		Dysentery		Meningococcal Infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified																
Total (all ages) ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	239	219	—	—	4	3	—	1
Final numbers after correction:																
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	38	—	—	—	—	—	1
2 years ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	26	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 " ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	36	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 " ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	33	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9 " ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	73	72	—	—	1	1	—	—
10-14 " ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 " ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	239	219	—	—	4	3	—	1
	Acute Pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute Encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified																
Total (all ages) ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	4
Final numbers after correction:																
Under 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
5-14 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
15-44 " ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
45-64 " ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
65 and over ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	4
	Tuberculosis						Original		Final							
	Respiratory		Meningeal		Other		M	F	M	F	Puerperal		Pyrexia			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Numbers originally notified																
Total (all ages) ..	5	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction:																
Under 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 " ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-44 " ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-64 " ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ..	5	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTALS Pulm. and Non- Pulm
	Pulm.	Non- Pulm.	Pulm.	Non- Pulm.	
No. of cases remaining on the Register on 31st Dec., 1965 ..	113	12	78	30	233
No. of cases remaining on the Register on 31st Dec., 1966 ..	102	12	67	30	211

Tuberculosis, 1957-1966

Year	Notifications			Number of T.B. Deaths per year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total		
1957	36	8	44	7	0.20
1958	14	5	19	3	0.08
1959	32	8	40	4	0.11
1960	23	4	27	2	0.06
1961	30	3	33	2	0.06
1962	26	2	28	3	0.08
1963	13	2	15	1	0.02
1964	14	1	15	2	0.05
1965	11	6	17	1	0.02
1966	7	1	8	1	0.02

Annual Returns for 10 years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Whooping Cough	Measles	Para Typhoid Fever	Malaria	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Ac. Encephalitis (Infective)	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia
1957	11	—	7	9	—	203	—	36	8	56	859	—	—	2	—	—	2	1
1958	6	—	3	5	1	11	—	14	5	144	18	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
1959	14	—	7	10	—	12	—	32	8	6	886	—	1	—	—	—	4	1
1960	5	—	2	9	—	8	—	23	4	3	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	1	—	1	5	—	2	—	30	3	3	733	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1962	—	—	4	9	—	—	—	26	2	20	26	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1963	3	—	3	10	—	3	—	13	2	96	929	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1964	6	—	—	5	1	2	—	14	1	—	156	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1965	20	—	1	3	1	29	—	11	6	3	492	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1966	4	—	2	2	1	7	—	7	1	—	458	—	—	—	—	—	9	—

Tuberculosis, 1966

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
16-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26-30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31-35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-40	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
41-45	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
46-50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51-55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-60	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	5	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
Grand Totals	7		1		1		—	

Pulmonary Tuberculosis Case Rate per 1,000 Population

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15.2	13.3	11.7	10.8	10.2	7.6	6.9	6.2	5.2	4.6

PART II—ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am once again pleased to submit the following section dealing with the work of the department in the field of environmental hygiene.

Housing

Steady progress was made in slum clearance by the submission of a further 43 houses for a Clearance Order, the representation of 23 individual unfit houses and the commencement of further surveys.

Improvement grant applications were again slow with little interest being shown by landlords or tenants. This may be due to any number of factors such as high interest rates, high building costs or the desire of the householder to live in a modern residential area in a new house. I am hopeful, however, that as land and building costs continue to rise, the rate of improvement will also rise, as more people realise that it may be preferable to pay a few shillings more in rent to have their old house modernised than to meet increased costs of house purchase, travel, new furnishings, carpets, curtains, etc., which are all entailed in moving.

The year did end on a brighter note with a preliminary application by a company to modernise a number of houses in an area which is obviously ripe for improvement.

Public Health

Once again this covered the usual gamut of nuisances, choked drains, infectious disease investigations, removal of unwanted articles, caravan sites, water supplies, rodent destruction, licensing of pet shops, riding establishments, kennels, care of mortuary, etc.

Much time can be spent on these day-to-day problems which do not merit the headlines, but nevertheless contribute to the well-being of the public.

Food and Drugs

With the appointment of a second additional inspector we were able to re-direct our energies to ensuring that the requirements of the various Acts and Regulations were being observed. Systematic visits were resumed trade by trade, and these, together with advice, information, codes of hygiene, are already proving beneficial. Towards the end of the year new Regulations dealing with market stalls and delivery vehicles were introduced, and work on these is proceeding.

Development Control

In co-operation with the Borough Engineer and Town Clerk's Department new plans are vetted and copies of planning consents

received, so that developers may be advised at the preliminary stage of legislative requirements relating to their proposals.

Administration and Staffing

The establishment of the Department was again brought to full strength by the appointment of Mr. H. Gilbert as second additional public health inspector. Mr. Gradwell, the student, now in his second year of training, is making excellent progress. I should like to extend to the Council my thanks for their interest and support, the staff for their willing work and my fellow officers for their kindness and co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. A. GILL, CERT. S.I.B.: M.A.P.H.I.
Senior Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

Croft No. 1 Clearance Order: This area, comprising 51 dwellings and 1 other building, was cleared during the year.

Croft No. 2 Clearance Area: An Official Representation in respect of this area, comprising 43 dwellings, was submitted and recommended to be treated as a Clearance Order.

Ridley No. 1 Compulsory Purchase Order: Commencement was made on the rehousing and subsequent demolition of this area, comprising 111 dwellings and 21 other buildings.

Plessey No. 1 Clearance Area: This area, comprising some 25 dwellings in Winship Street, is at present being surveyed.

Individual Unfit Houses

3 houses were demolished and 13 closed during the year.

23 dwellings or parts of buildings were the subject of representations as being unfit.

The following Orders became operative.

	Houses	Persons	Families
Section 17—Demolition	3	12	3
Section 17—Closing in lieu of demolition	3	11	3
Section 18—Closing (parts of buildings)	4	11	4
	10	34	10

Removal of Aluminium Bungalows

1966 saw the end of the 106 temporary and 59 permanent pre-fabricated aluminium bungalows.

Improvement Grants

32 detailed surveys were made in response to enquiries and applications for grant aid.

11 Improvement Grants and 7 Standard Grants were approved during 1966, with the following completions—

	Owner-occupied	Tenanted
Improvement Grants (Discretionary) ..	4	1
Improvement Grants (Conversions) ..	1	2
Standard Grants	6	3
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 6

See Summary on pages 23 and 24.

Although these figures are reduced from 1965 there were additional 20 houses nearing completion at the year end.

A number of meetings were held with representatives of the Regional Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the Borough Engineer and myself on the question of improvement area procedure, and at the end of the year the Borough Engineer was authorised to submit for the approval of the Ministry, a scheme for the improvement of 50 Aged Persons' Bungalows at the South Farm Estate.

Houses for Agricultural Population

Annual Certificates were issued in respect of the fourteen new dwellings constructed since 1958.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

Apart from the occasional dwelling discovered to house three or more families, there is no serious problem in this respect. Of the six dwellings referred to in the Annual Report for 1964, three have been demolished, two have been converted to other use, one is occupied by single persons. At the year end two new cases were being dealt with.

Rent Act, 1957

There were two applications for Certificate of Compliance with Landlord's Undertaking, which were approved, the current position being—

1. Certificates of Disrepair	40
2. Certificates of Non-Compliance with Undertaking ..	26

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE—Return for Year ended 31st December, 1966

			No. of Houses	No. of Separate Dwellings
A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS, SEC. 42 HOUSING ACT, 1957	Unfit for human habitation	70	75
		Included by reason of bad arrangement ..	Nil	Nil
		On land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	3	3
	NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ..	3	3
		Local authority houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health ..	6	6
		Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil	Nil
		Houses included in unfitness orders under para. 2 of the 2nd Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961	Nil	Nil
		No. of separate dwellings included above and previously reported as closed	—	15
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED	Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957, and Sec. 26, Housing Act, 1961		10	10
	Under Secs. 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957		Nil	Nil
	PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ..		—	3

C. NUMBER OF PERSONS DISPLACED	From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	211	
	From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	2	
	From houses to be closed	27	
	From parts of buildings to be closed	4	
D. NUMBER OF FAMILIES DISPLACED	From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	84	
	From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	1	
	From houses to be closed	9	
	From parts of buildings to be closed	2	
E. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT		Houses	
	After informal action by local authority	20	
	After formal action under Secs. 9 (a) by Owner and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 (b) by Local Authority	Nil Nil	
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts ..	Nil	
	After modification or revocation of a clearance order under Sec. 21, Housing Act, 1961 ..	Nil	
	After determination of a demolition order under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
	After determination of a closing order under Sec. 27, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
F. HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	(Other than unfit houses made fit) After formal notice under Public Health Acts	82	
G. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE	Under Sec. 48, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
	Under Sec. 17(2), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
	Under Sec. 46, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	
H. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT		Houses	Occupiers
	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders ..	Nil	Nil

The total figures since 1945 are :

	CLEARANCE AREAS		DEMOLITION ORDERS		CLOSING ORDERS		TOTAL	
	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced
1945/50	399	1,875	55	432	1	4	455	2,311
1951	139	339	2	4	10	19	151	362
1952	67	220	76	298	8	36	151	554
1953	112	362	64	194	27	120	203	676
1954	—	—	33	103	37	131	70	234
1955	—	—	22	82	21	81	43	163
1956	109	—	4	22	23	119	136	141
1957	31	3	15	74	15	59	61	136
1958	2	184	3	26	23	51	28	261
1959	57	—	4	39	29	107	90	146
1960	10	—	10	92	34	105	54	197
1961	—	—	46	23	11	52	57	75
1962	—	—	28	13	20	68	48	81
1963	—	—	27	1	7	16	34	17
1964	—	—	20	—	9	50	29	50
1965	—	7	2	17	11	41	13	65
1966	73	221	9	2	13	31	95	254
	999	3,211	420	1,422	299	1,090	1,718	5,723

No. of dwellings included above which were previously regarded as Closed (now demolished).

1961— 8 }
 1962—15 }
 1963—18 } 62
 1964— 6 }
 1965— 0 }
 1966—15 }

In addition to the above figures 165 Pre-fabricated Dwellings have been demolished.

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

	1965		1966	
	With State Assis- tance	Unaided	With State Assis- tance	Unaided
HOUSES COMPLETED IN 1966				
Permanent Traditional—				
Contractor	104	—	96	—
Permanent Non-Traditional—				
Contractor	24	—	—	2
HOUSES IN PROGRESS 31.12.65				
Perm. Traditional—Contractor ..	115	—	129	—
Non-Traditional	2	—	—	—
Houses approved by M.H. and L.G.	196	—	18	—
HOUSES COMPLETED POST-WAR BY COUNCIL UP TO 31.12.66				
Permanent Traditional	2,536	2	2,632	—
Permanent Non-Traditional				
100 Wimpey	174	—	174	2
50 Myton				
24 Shipyard				
2 Albion Depot				
PERMANENT PRE-FABRICATED				
B.I.S.F.	72	—	72	—
Aluminium	24	—	Demolished	—
Concrete (South Farm)	44	—	44	—
HOUSES COMPLETED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE				
Traditional	—	25	—	27
HOUSES COMPLETED POST-WAR BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE				
Traditional	2 }	989	2 }	1,016
Non-Traditional	12 }	—	12 }	—
	Farm Cottages		Farm Cottages	

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS—SUMMARY

APPLICATIONS

COMPLETIONS

Year	Approved	Refused	Owner-Occupied Grant	Tenanted Grant	Owner-Occupied	Grant	Tenanted	Grant
1955/65	300	11	£ s. d. 17,240 0 0	£ s. d. 38,534 0 0	52	£ s. d. 10,903 0 0	210	£ s. d. 36,744 0 0
1966	5	—	507 0 0	1,074 0 0	4	925 0 0	1	357 0 0
	305	11	£17,747 0 0	£39,608 0 0	56	£11,828 0 0	211	£37,101 0 0

23

CONVERSIONS APPLICATIONS

COMPLETIONS

Year	Approved	No. of Dwellings	Owner-Occupied Grant	Tenanted Grant	Owner-Occupied	Grant	Tenanted	Grant
1959/65	21	23	£ s. d. 2,855 0 0	£ s. d. 2,545 0 0	8	£ s. d. 1,947 0 0	6	£ s. d. 1,034 0 0
1966	6	6	752 0 0	1,061 0 0	1	327 0 0	2	611 0 0
	27	29	£3,607 0 0	£3,606 0 0	9	£2,274 0 0	8	£1,645 0 0

29 .. £7,213 0 0

17 .. £3,919

STANDARD GRANTS—SUMMARY

APPLICATIONS

Year	Approved	Refused	Owner-Occupied Grant	Tenanted Grant
1959/65	86	1	£ s. d. 7,008 10 0	£ s. d. 4,960 0 0
1966	7	—	935 0 0	145 0 0
	93	1	£7,943 10 0	£5,105 0 0

£13,048 10 0

COMPLETIONS

Year	Owner-Occupier		Tenanted		Fixed Baths or Showers	Wash Basins	Hot Water Supplies	Water Closets	Food Storage Facilities
	No.	Grant	No.	Grant					
1960/65	42	£ s. d. 5,185 15 3	16	1,471 14 11	45	47	42	56	23
1966	6	737 2 6	3	602 17 6	8	8	7	9	5
	48	£5,922 17 9	19	£2,074 12 5	53	55	49	65	28

67 .. £7,997 10 2

COUNCIL-OWNED 880 (For provision of wash-hand basins.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

This subject is dealt with in the preamble to Part II of the Report.

FOOD PREMISES

In accordance with the Ministry of Health's instructions the following information is given regarding food premises in the Borough.

Bakeries	6	Hotels	1
Combined Bakeries and Shops	5	Restaurants	4
Retail Shops	10	Cafes and Snack Bars	8
Butchers	20	Grill Rooms	1
Cooked Meats	7	Ice-Cream Manufacturers	2
Departmental Stores	3	Licensed Premises	44
Factory Canteens	6	Licensed Clubs	18
Fish Fryers	16	Off-Licences	11
Fish Wholesalers	3	Mineral Water Manufacturers	1
Food Warehouses	8	School Kitchens	7
General Dealers	61	Domestic Science Rooms	9
Greengrocers	13	Sugar Confectionery—Retail	24
Grocery and Provisions	45	Sugar Confectionery—Manufacturers	1

a total of 334

REGISTRATIONS

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Act is as follows:—

Bakehouses	11	Ice-Cream Manufacturers	2
Butchers	18	Ice-Cream Retailers	130
Cooked Meats	8	Fish Wholesalers	3
Fish Fryers	16		

NEW REGISTRATIONS

Preparation of Shellfish 1

CANCELLATIONS

Bakehouses 1
Butchers 1

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are 74 Registered Distributors in the Borough.

Milk bottles forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for examination gave the following results.

Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
60	3	9	72

The dairy management are notified monthly of the results so that unsatisfactory bottle counts may be minimised.

Samples of Pasteurised milk taken by the County Health Inspector gave the following results:—

	METHYLENE BLUE TEST		PHOSPHATASE TEST		Total Samples
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Untreated	2	1	—	—	3
Pasteurised	59	1	58	2 void	120
	61	2	58	2 void	123

THE FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

Preliminary notification was given to the various traders of the requirements which come into force on the 1st January, 1967.

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1959

10 samples of heat-treated ice-cream were taken, of which 7 were Grade I, 2 Grade II and 1 Grade III.

The 7 Grade I samples were all from the sole manufacturer in the Borough, the remaining 3 being from retailers who were reconstituting mixture for use in soft-mix freezer/dispensers.

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene and Cruelty) Regulations

The sole slaughterhouse in the Borough is occupied by the Blyth Co-operative Society, Ltd., who provide facilities for the local traders.

Following the modernisation in 1965 to comply with the Regulations and the issue of a renewal licence, further improvements were carried out by the provision of additional covered lairage with water and feeding facilities.

An addition to the normal work of meat inspection was the use of the slaughterhouse by an exporter slaughtering mainly sows and boars for export to Belgium, although this was curtailed during the Northumberland foot and mouth outbreak.

The Meat Inspection Regulations

No order had been made curtailing the hours of slaughtering, although discussions had taken place between the occupier and the users at the time of preparation of the report, the problem having become complicated by the use of the slaughterhouse by the exporter mainly on Saturdays and Sundays.

A total of 9,710 carcasses were inspected and marked in accordance with the Regulations and 611 visits were made.

Condemned Meat

It was found necessary to condemn the following entire carcasses and organs:—

Animal	No.	Disease	Weight in lbs.
Cow	1	Johne's Disease	420
"	1	Oedema and Emaciation	320
Sow	1	Gangrene and Bruising	280
"	1	Septic Metritis	390
"	1	Pyæmia	240
Pig	1	do	84
"	1	Septic Pleurisy	100
"	1	Moribund	230
Sheep	11	Emaciation and Oedema	416
Ewes	12	Emaciation and associated diseases	485
"	1	Pyæmia	35
"	1	Septicæmia	58
"	1	Septic Mastitis	76
Tups	1	Emaciation and Peritonitis	70
"	1	Emaciation and Inflammation	60

In addition the following part-carcases and organs were condemned:—

	Weight in lbs.
Cattle	4,950
Sheep	1,026
Pigs	2,189

a total of 5 tons 1 cwt. 3 qrs. 3 lbs., which were collected twice weekly by Tyneside Butchers Bye Products, Ltd.

Diseases of Animals

No notifications were received during the year.

During the period of Foot and Mouth outbreak it was necessary to obtain a licence from the Police, the Authority under the Act, for the removal of manure from the slaughterhouse. This was disposed of by burying on the Kitty Brewster Tip after covering with lime, followed by thorough cleansing and steam disinfection of the vehicles.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for his co-operation in this matter.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,579	3	—	5,071	3,057
Number inspected	1,579	3	—	5,071	3,057
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	—	—	28	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	367	2	—	235	200
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	23.36	—	—	5.18	6.7
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	32
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.18	—	—	—	1.04
Cysticercosis:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED—SUMMARY, 1966

Month	Bulls	Bul- locks	Hei- fers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total 1966	Total 1965
January	—	9	6	—	—	16	169	200	641
February	1	101	37	2	—	381	213	735	699
March	—	132	18	—	—	422	266	838	622
April	—	117	18	—	—	353	222	710	—
May	—	125	31	—	—	366	272	794	—
June	—	84	44	—	—	382	170	680	—
July	—	52	65	1	—	390	218	726	—
August	—	90	62	—	—	546	227	925	—
September	—	70	76	—	—	614	202	962	—
October	—	101	63	—	—	603	248	1,015	—
November	—	121	41	—	—	654	328	1,144	—
December	—	87	28	—	—	344	522	981	42
Totals, 1966	1	1,089	489	3	—	5,071	3,057	9,710	—
Totals, 1965	—	334	100	—	—	1,099	471	—	2,004

1966
Sows Boars Tups Ewes
831 73 2 492

1965

-65-

-83-

All included in
Totals of Summary

DETAILS OF SLAUGHTERING, 1966

	Slaughtering Days	Overtime		Satur-days	Sun-days	Bank Holi-days	Inspection
		Days	Hours				
January ..	15	2	2	—	—	—	36
February ..	20	4	3½	—	—	—	41
March ..	23	4	4	—	—	—	55
April ..	19	5	7¾	1	—	1	42
May ..	23	8	12	1	—	1	43
June ..	21	4	3¾	—	—	—	40
July ..	20	7	6¾	1	1	—	55
August ..	21	8	15¼	1	1	1	53
September ..	21	5	6	1	—	—	45
October ..	21	5	5½	—	—	—	47
November ..	24	6	10	1	1	—	74
December ..	26	12	25¼	3	3	—	80
	254	70	101¾	9	6	3	611

UN SOUND FOOD

The following complaints as to unsound or the presence of foreign bodies in food, were attended to.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Corned Beef alleged to have caused food poisoning. | No pathogenic organisms discovered by Public Health Laboratory. |
| 2. Spent match in loaf. | County Borough of Gateshead notified. |
| 3. Larvae in canned tomatoes. | Larvae of common fruit fly <i>Geratitis</i> . Canners notified. |
| 4. "Ropey" bread. | B. Mesenterious. Bakery notified. |
| 5. Larvae in Baby Food. | Manufacturer notified. Due to insufficient rotation of stock by retailer. Retailer warned. |
| 6. Mould in cake . | Manufacturer notified. Ventilation of sales shop improved. |
| 7. Notification from City of Leicester of case of <i>Salmonella</i> Heidelberg infection. Possible source coconut. | Samples submitted to Public Health Laboratory. No pathogenic organisms isolated. |
| 8. Mould in loaf. | Bakery notified. Retail Manager advised re stock rotation. |
| 9. Mould in flat cakes. | Bakery notified re inadequate separation of returned goods in delivery vans. |
| 10. Unsound chicken. | Retailer warned. |
| 11. Out-dated Baby Food. | Manufacturer notified and retailer warned re strict rotation and return. |
| 12. Mould in loaf. | Retailer warned re stock rotation. |
| 13. Mould in cakes. | Manufacturers notified. |
| 14. Foreign body in imported jam. | Referred to Food and Drugs Authority. |
| 15. Pre-packed cheese — out of condition. | Retailer warned and stocks withdrawn. |
| 16. Chocolate biscuit affected larvae <i>Ephestia Elutella</i> . | Retailer warned and stocks withdrawn. |
| 17. Matchstick in chicken and chips. | Retailer warned. |

In addition to the above the following foodstuffs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption:—

	Tins	Lbs.
Meat	2,185	262
Fruit	1,643	—
Vegetables	3,163	28
Milk	1,075	—
Fish	188	—
Puddings	634	56
Fruit Juice	107	—
Cereals	310	—
Soup	1,566	—
Preserves	9	—
Flour	—	210
Sugar	—	168
Fats	—	109

PUBLIC HEALTH

Part II—Sanitation and Buildings

Drainage, Refuse and Verminous Premises

The undermentioned free services were provided during the year:—

Cleansing of choked drains	...	...	56
Removal of unwanted household effects			1,315
No. of houses treated for insect pests	...		368

Building Byelaws and Sanitation

All deposited plans and planning consent continued to be investigated in order that developers may be advised at an early stage of legislative requirements dealing with Clean Air, Food and Drugs, Housing, the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and associated Regulations.

Part III—Nuisances

1,639 visits were made and interviews given in connection with complaints and general public health matters. See Summary on page 39.

Spoilbanks

Since tipping ceased in 1962 there have been no complaints. Inspections were made by representatives of the National Coal Board and myself of the four spoil heaps in the Borough, and the representatives of the Board stated that all the spoil heaps appeared to be safe.

Coal Disposal Points

The remaining surface works were cleared by the Regional Open-Cast Executive during the year.

Part IV—Water Supply

The water supply to the Borough is entirely by mains supply by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, to whom I am indebted for the following consumption figures:—

Source of Supply
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company
Tynemouth Corporation Water Department

Gallons
346,169,000
3,879,000

Bacteriological Analyses

48 samples of water were taken, of which 47 were satisfactory and 1 was classified as suspicious.

	Site	Highly Satis.	Sat.	Sus.	Unsat.	Total
1.	St. Ronan's Drive, Seaton Sluice	12	—	—	—	12
2.	Blyth Co-op. Soc. Dairy ..	11	—	—	—	11
3.	Dinsdale, Marine Terrace, Blyth	8	—	—	—	8
4.	Morpeth Road Central Kitchen	1	—	—	—	1
5.	Bebside C.P. School Kitchen	1	—	—	—	1
6.	Bebside C. Secondary School Kitchen	2	—	—	—	2
7.	New Delaval C. Sec. School Kitchen	1	—	—	—	1
8.	Draegair Normalair, Ltd., Kitty Brewster Estate ..	1	—	—	—	1
9.	Assoc. Tailors, Ltd., Kitty Brewster Estate	1	1	—	—	2
10.	Link House Caravan Site ..	1	—	—	—	1
11.	Pottery Field Caravan Site	1	—	—	—	1
12.	South Newsham Camping Site	3	—	—	—	3
13.	Ridley Park	3	—	1	—	4
		46	1	1	Nil	48

Chemical Analyses

No samples of drinking water were submitted.

Part V—Prevention, Treatment and Notification of Infectious Diseases

167 investigations were made, primarily in connection with dysentery and food poisoning contacts.

Part VI—Mortuaries and Post Mortem Rooms

The Mortuary was used on 52 occasions, details being:—

Authority	Bodies	Post-Mortems
Borough of Blyth	48	43
Bedlington Urban District Council	1	1
River Blyth Port Health Authority	3	3

Part IV—Public Health Act, 1875

Part VIII—Public Health Act, 1936

Paddling Pool, Ridley Park

Regular Ph. and Residual Chlorine tests were found to be satisfactory.

New Swimming Baths

Constructional work proceeded during the year.

Part X—Miscellaneous

WATERCOURSES

Tynedale and Kitty Brewster

These did not give rise to any specific public health complaint during the year, but would undoubtedly benefit from culverting.

Lysdon and Meggie's Burns

I am informed by the Borough Engineer that the question of culverting Meggie's Burn is under consideration for possible future land development. The watercourses did not give rise to any public health complaint.

Egg Pond to Seaton Burn

Further pollution occurred during the year from the tipping operations carried out by the Borough of Whitley Bay, but this was promptly dealt with by their Borough Engineer.

Tents, Vans and Sheds

The Council-owned camping ground was well serviced and again proved highly popular. Should finances permit, it might well be extended.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The position at the end of 1966 was:—

Link House Gardens, Blyth
(Holiday Site)

Amended planning permission without limitation of time issued 15th January, 1965.
Site Licence issued 17th June, 1965.

Service Garage, Links Road.
(Permanent Residential —
Four Caravans).

Existing use Site Licence issued 15th November, 1963.
No occupied caravans on site at end of year.

Old Pottery, South Newsham.
(Permanent Residential —
Thirty Caravans).

Planning permission issued 15th June, 1962, for period ending 31st December, 1971.
Renewal Site Licence issued 9th December, 1966.

High House Farm, Bebside.
(One Residential Caravan)

Planning permission issued 9th February, 1962, to expire on 31st December, 1964.
Site Licence issued 21st February, 1962. New permission issued 15th January, 1965, to expire 31st December, 1967.

Malvin's Close (Permanent Residential — Eight Caravans).

Planning permission issued 14th September, 1962, to expire 31st December, 1967.

Site Licence issued 18th September, 1962. Five caravans on site at end of year.

South Newsham Camping Site. (One Residential Caravan, Council-owned).

Planning permission issued 28th April, 1964.

THE CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Smoke Control Areas

No action was taken by the Council or the Department to promote a Smoke Control programme, although the Council have specified that openable solid fuel stores be installed in all new dwellings constructed on their behalf. Towards the latter end of the year interest was shown in the possibility of a district heating scheme for the proposed Devonworth Place development.

Industrial and Commercial Furnaces

New Installations

- | Situation | Type of Heating |
|---|--|
| 1. Associated Tailoring Estates, Ltd., Kitty Brewster Estate. | Two — 275 Vekos Powermaster Steam Boilers, Automatic Coal Fired. Rated output 9,500 lbs./hr. each. |
| 2. Adult Training Centre, Kitty Brewster Estate. Northumberland County Council. | Two — Ideal 3GBD6 Gas Boilers. Rated output 520,000 B.T.U.s./hr. |
| 3. The "Seahorse", Plessey Road. Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, Ltd. | Potterton Gas-fired Boiler. Rated output 200,000 B.T.U.s./hr. |

Pending

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Newsham County Primary School. Northumberland County Council. | Two—Ideal L.P. Hot Water 410K Gas-fired Boilers. Rated output 904,000 B.T.U.s. each. |
| 2. English Industrial Estates Corp.—Advance Factory. | Three—Beeston No. 12MN3 Oil-fired Boilers. Rated output 1,811,000 B.T.U.s./hr. |
| 3. New Swimming Pool. Blyth Borough Council. | Two—Coal-fired Automatic Under-feed Stokers. Rated output not less than 1,800,000 B.T.U.s./hr. |

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This is the subject of a separate report.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

A summary of visits is given in Pages 39 to 44.

Animal Destruction

I am indebted to the Secretary of the R.S.P.C.A. for the following figures of animals humanely destroyed at the Albion Yard centre.

Dogs	...	...	137
Cats	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	2

Pet Animals Act

There are two licensed dealers in the Borough, and the requirements of the Act are observed.

Animal Boarding Establishments

The sole animal boarding establishment at Furnace Road, Bebside, was reinspected and a renewal licence for the boarding of 15 dogs and 15 cats issued.

Riding Establishments

Two licences have been issued under the Act.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

Four farms were inspected and were found to comply with the Act.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Regular servicing and survey work is carried out to all Council properties, dwellinghouses, agricultural holdings, food and other business premises and in addition constant treatment was given to the Meggie's Burn and Bebside refuse tips, and twice-yearly sewer treatments were carried out.

Details of the work of the Rodent Officer are shown on Page 35 and Mr. Wade also incorporates the work of Mortuary Attendant and General Handyman for drainage work and fumigations.

Protection of Birds Act, 1954

Like most towns, Blyth suffers from pigeons and starlings congregating on commercial and domestic premises, and following a petition from residents in Princess Louise Road and Broadway Crescent, two members of the staff were designated as "Authorised Persons" for the purposes of the Act.

Remedial measures by trapping and shooting are being carried out.

Rag, Flock and Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no registered or licensed premises in the Borough, only two traders using filling materials for re-conditioning purposes, and the materials used satisfy the British Standard Institution Mark Scheme.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Two complaints of noise nuisance were dealt with informally.

Factories Act, 1961

In conjunction with the survey under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, an inspection of all factory premises is

being carried out and, after consultation with H.M. District Inspector of Factories, an amended schedule of power and non-power factories has been agreed.

Details of inspections and defaults are given on Pages 35 to 38.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	No.	Baits Laid	Traps	Ozs. Poison Bait Taken	No. of Bodies		Est. Kill Rats	No. of Visits
					Rats	Mice		
Dwellinghouses ..	128	568	3	221	3	39	6	266
Gardens	69	231	—	432	23	—	108	238
Allotments ..	17	127	—	952	69	—	265	68
Food Shops ..	28	437	—	116½	—	22	6	72
Schools	9	196	—	38	—	14	—	19
Licensed Premises ..	11	170	—	89	2	13	13	27
Business Premises ..	20	452	—	390½	29	19	135	60
Farms	2	168	—	61	48	—	164	8
Caravan Sites ..	1	10	—	40	2	—	10	4
Hospitals	1	4	—	2	—	—	—	2
Council Properties ..	19	1,108	—	775	266	8	774	72
	305	3,471	3	3,117½	442	115	1,481	836

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	6	1	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	102	42	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	8	8	Nil	Nil
Total ..	115	56	4	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4) To H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) ..					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	Nil	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil
	4	4	2	1	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

Sections 133 and 134

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Sec. 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing (Making, apparel { etc. { Cleaning { and { Washing	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

FACTORIES, 1966

	Mechanical Power	No Mechanical Power
Bakeries	9	
Blacksmiths	1	
Boat Building and Repairs	3	
Boot Repairs	8	2
Catering	1	
Car Spraying	1	
Chemists—Manufacturing	1	
Clothing Alterations	3	1
Clothing Manufacturers	3	
Composting	1	
Concrete Mixing	1	
Cooked Meat Products	6	
Coppersmiths	1	
Corn Grinders	1	
Corporation Dept.	1	
Dairies	1	
Dry Cleaning	1	
Electrical Undertakings	1	
Electrical Components	2	
Electrical Contractors	1	
Electrical Repairs	2	
Electro-plating	1	
Fibreglass and Plastics	1	
Foam Converters	1	
Foundry	1	
Funeral Furnishers	3	
Gas Undertakings	1	
Heating and Ventilating Engineers	—	1
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	1	
Loco. Repairs	1	
Marine Engineering	2	
Marine Store	1	
Mineral Water Manufacturers	1	
Monumental Sculptors	2	
Motor Vehicle Repairs	19	
Motor Vehicle Spares	1	
Paper Baling	1	
Plastic Injection Moulding	1	
Printing	1	
Radio and T.V. Repairs	2	
Rags and Scrap Metal	2	
Safety and Medical Equipment	1	
Sawmills	1	
Sheet Metals	1	
Shipbuilding	1	
Slaughtering	1	
Sugar Confectionery	1	
Timber Importers	1	
Timber Impregnators	1	
Upholsterers	2	
Water Undertakings	—	1
Totals	102	5

ANNUAL REPORT, 1966

No. of inspections made during 1966	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Total Grand
(a) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.														
Complaints—general	38	41	47	28	48	70	28	40	64	63	67	38	572	
Re-inspections re outstanding Notices	58	52	9	52	45	66	12	52	69	51	77	5	548	
Dirty or verminous premises	17	10	14	14	26	53	26	22	11	10	3	5	211	
Drainage	12	10	7	5	—	3	12	10	—	9	13	15	96	
Holiday accommodation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Keeping of animals	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	6	—	—	10	
Mortuary	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Public conveniences	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
Refuse tips	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Watercourses	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	9	
Water supplies	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	
General	25	27	16	4	21	32	13	11	4	4	6	16	179	
													1,639	1,639
(b) AGRICULTURE (WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT.														
Farms	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	
													4	1,643
(c) CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.														
Existing	1	1	2	2	5	1	4	2	—	3	2	—	23	
Proposed—applications and enquiries	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	
South Newsham Camp Site	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	4	
													30	1,673

No. of inspections made during 1966	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Grand Total
(d) CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956. Plant inspection and prior approvals	1	—	1	3	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	10	1,700
Spoilbanks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	
Smoke nuisances	—	2	3	1	1	4	—	—	—	2	1	1	15	
(e) DEVELOPMENT CONTROL. Clean Air; Factories Act; Food and Drugs; Offices, Shops and R.P. Acts; Public Health ..	1	1	1	3	2	9	1	19	3	11	—	—	51	1,751
(f) FACTORIES ACT, 1961. Mechanical power	1	—	1	2	1	2	5	3	1	19	6	1	42	
No mechanical power	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	6	
Outworkers	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1,800
(g) INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFICATIONS) ACTS. Investigations, etc.	3	4	2	18	6	8	7	5	7	35	14	4	113	
Food poisoning	—	4	3	—	—	4	2	14	14	13	—	—	54	
(h) NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960. Investigations	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1,970
													3	

No. of inspections made during 1966	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Grand Total
(i) OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.														
Offices	1	7	8	4	12	12	4	6	—	12	22	7	95	
Shops—retail	5	20	25	26	12	23	21	29	14	22	115	45	357	
Wholesale Depts. or Warehouses Catering establishments open to the public	—	1	2	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	10	
Accident investigations	4	4	8	9	3	5	3	3	3	—	5	5	52	
Administration	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	1	1	3	4	7	22	
	13	18	23	10	16	10	11	12	14	14	5	1	147	
(j) PESTS ACT, 1949.														2,653
Council properties	5	4	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	3	32	
Other Properties	4	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	4	5	11	33	
General; allotments, agricultural holdings; refuse tips	1	1	7	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	17	
Sewer treatments	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7	
													89	2,742
(k) PET ANIMALS, BOARDING AND RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS.														
Inspections and interviews	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	1	11	
(l) DISEASES OF ANIMALS.														2,753
Inspections and interviews	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	1	—	—	—	10	
													10	2,763
(m) ADMINISTRATION.														
General interviews, etc.	23	8	12	22	25	27	47	42	23	41	75	22	367	
													367	3,130

No. of inspections made during 1966	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Grand Total
(n) HOUSING ACT, 1957.														
Applications — overcrowding and conditions	2	5	5	2	18	16	1	7	4	13	5	—	78	
Housing Survey	8	23	8	19	11	25	3	11	27	14	6	21	176	
General	—	—	4	10	8	15	3	1	1	1	—	—	43	
(o) PART II— INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.													297	3,427
Inspections; Repair and Undertakings	4	—	—	14	3	9	9	24	26	33	41	15	178	
(p) PART III—SLUM CLEARANCE.													178	3,605
Clearance Areas—Survey	1	—	2	2	3	3	1	12	9	1	5	1	40	
Clearance Areas—General inspections and visits	—	—	6	—	6	20	37	8	41	1	2	3	124	
Compulsory Purchase Orders	—	—	5	3	1	5	4	4	—	1	1	—	24	
Redevelopment Areas	—	—	1	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	
General	—	—	2	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	
(q) PART IV—OVERCROWDING.													212	3,817
Investigations	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	7	
(r) HOUSING ACTS, 1958-1964.													7	3,824
Improvement Grants	22	21	17	13	45	16	10	13	7	24	12	4	204	
Agricultural dwellings	—	—	14	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	
(s) HOUSING ACT, 1964.													220	4,044
Houses in multiple occupation ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	7	
													7	4,051

No. of inspections made during 1966		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	J.uly	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Grand Total
(t)	RENT ACT, 1965.														
	Inspections and enquiries	..	4	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	12	
														12	4,063
(u)	FOOD AND DRUGS.														
	Abattoir—meat inspection	..	41	55	42	43	40	55	53	45	47	74	80	611	
	Bakehouses	..	2	1	—	1	1	5	12	3	2	10	9	50	
	Bakery and Confectionery	..	6	1	1	1	1	1	11	—	—	1	1	24	
	Butchers/Cooked meats	..	7	6	3	4	4	2	—	22	10	5	3	67	
	Cafes and Restaurants	..	—	6	3	1	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	22	
	Canteens and Snack Bars	..	1	—	6	1	2	1	3	3	3	12	—	33	
	Examination of unsound food	..	11	11	11	6	11	8	6	9	26	12	14	131	
	Fish Fryers	..	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	8	
	Food manufacturing	..	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	4	14	
	General Dealers	..	40	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	48	
	Fruit shops	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	Greengrocers	..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	
	Grocery and Provisions	..	29	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	5	3	5	53	
	Ice-cream	..	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	7	
	Licensed Premises	..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	12	
	Market Stalls and Delivery	..	1	—	7	12	13	13	55	131	27	31	8	299	
	Vehicles	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Wet Fish	..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	6	
	General	..	1	5	4	2	6	1	1	7	5	11	2	50	
														1,446	5,509
(v)	MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS.														
	Dairies and equipment	..	1	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	—	8	
	Milk Storage Depots and Shops	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	15	
														23	5,532

No. of inspections made during 1966		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Grand Total
(w)	SAMPLING.														
	Bacteriological:														
	(a) Milk bottles	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	72	
	(b) Water	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	48	
	(c) Ice-cream	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	—	10	
	(d) Other foods	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	6	
	(e) Faeces	2	3	—	—	—	13	9	11	18	45	8	—	109	
	(f) Sputum	—	1	—	1	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	
	Chemical:														
	(a) Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	
														256	5,788
(x)	MISCELLANEOUS.														
	No. of Informal Notices served ..	14	8	6	6	8	7	11	19	11	16	11	7	124	
	No. of Statutory Notices served ..	—	18	10	7	2	1	13	—	42	8	12	—	113	
	No. of houses and buildings treated for eradication of insect pests	10	10	12	17	41	59	46	45	51	41	19	17	368	
	No. of items of bedding, clothing, etc., destroyed by request	63	72	105	107	166	191	103	120	111	77	97	103	1,315	
	Choked drains cleansed	6	7	4	4	5	4	4	5	2	5	4	6	56	
	Informal Notices complied	5	—	6	—	14	—	9	8	1	2	—	14	59	
	Statutory Notices complied	7	—	8	—	14	—	21	4	7	7	—	4	72	
														2,107	7,895
(y)	LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925.														
	Searches	28	19	21	27	34	28	22	23	16	41	51	27	337	
														337	8,232

